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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/900,484

07/06/2001

Jack B. Strong

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4155

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7590

10/21/2004

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EXAMINER

BONSHOCK, DENNIS G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 10/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/900,484

Applicant(s)

STRONG ET AL.

Examiner

Dennis G. Bonshock

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 June 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>04-21-04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**FINAL REJECTION**

***Response to Amendment***

1. It is hereby acknowledged that the following papers have been received and placed on record in the file: Amendment A as received on 07-24-04.

2. Claims 1-38 have been examined.

Status of Claims:

3. Claims 1-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bertram, Patent #5,812,131 and Nicolas et al., Patent #6,593,944, hereinafter Nicolas.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bertram, Patent #5,812,131 and Nicolas et al., Patent #6,593,944, hereinafter Nicolas.

3. With regard to claim 1, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removal of the current document formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell elements as interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width. Bertram further teaches, in column 3, lines 51-58 and column 3, line 65 through column 4, line 2, the case of a table with less than one column or less than one row (and empty table). Bertram discusses the adaptation of a display for a small screen (see column 3, lines 51-55), but doesn't teach tabular data in nested tables, or the removal of tabular data

from outer tables. Nicolas teaches an electronic system for viewing web page data on a small-sized electronic device (see column 2, lines 34-37), similar to that of Bertram, but further teaches, nested tables (see column 1, lines 65-67), and it is implied that that formatting could be removed from the outer table based on the teaching of Bertram. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bertram and Nicolas before him at the time the invention was made to modify the system reformatting a table for a small display of Bertram to include the ability to have a web page formatted into several frames by a parent web page, whereas each frame is a separate web page from the rest of the parent web page. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because this is how a typical web page is displayed.

4. With regard to claims 2, 30, and 36, which teach removing tabular data formatting comprising: examining columns to determine if more than one column contains a form input field, an image exceeding a maximum pixel width allowance, or text exceeding a maximum text length. Bertram further teaches in column 3, line 60 through column 4, line 2, removing tabular formatting to reflow table elements, and in column 9, lines 42-54, and in figure 8, columns containing form input fields. Nicolas further teaches, in column 1, lines 58-62, data including image data and text data.

5. With regard to claims 3, 11, and 20, which teach a maximum pixel width allowance of 120 pixels, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the reformatting of tabular data on the basis of a maximum width allowance. The examiner takes official

notice that the maximum width allowance could be set to any value including the 120 pixels as taught by the applicant.

6. With regard to claims 4, 12, and 21, which teach a maximum text length allowance of 40 characters, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the reformatting of tabular data on the basis of a maximum width allowance. The examiner takes official notice that the maximum width allowance could be set to any value including the 10 characters as taught by the applicant.

7. With regard to claim 5, which teaches the removal of tabular formatting if more than one column in the tabular data contains image data exceeding the maximum pixel width allowance, contains a form input field, or contains text data exceeding a maximum text length allowance, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removal of the current document formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell elements as interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width. Bertram further teaches, in column 9, lines 42-54, and in figure 8, columns containing form input fields. Nicolas further teaches, in column 1, lines 58-62, data including image data and text data.

8. With regard to claim 6, which teaches removing tabular formatting if the tabular data exceeds the absolute maximum width allowance, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removal of the current document formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell elements as interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width.

9. With regard to claim 7, which teach a maximum pixel width allowance of 350 pixels, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the reformatting of tabular data on

the basis of a maximum width allowance. The examiner takes official notice that the maximum width allowance could be set to any value including the 350 pixels as taught by the applicant.

10. With regard to claims 8, 22, and 37, determining if the tabular data contains related images if the tabular data exceeds the absolute maximum width allowance, and sizing the related images to fit within the absolute maximum width allowance, Bertram teaches in column 3, lines 30-42 and in column 10, lines 33-40 and lines 46-56, the reformatting, reflowing, and resizing of text within a table element if the text exceeds some maximum width. Given the teachings of Bertram and Nicolas it would be obvious to do the same with image data.

11. With regard to claims 9 and 38, which teach removing the tabular formatting if it is determined that tabular data contains only a single row or a single column, Bertram teaches in column 3, line 50 through column 4, line 2 the breaking apart of tabular portions and reorganization to facilitate the display in a smaller document, but doesn't specifically mention removing formatting if the tabular data only contains a single row or a single column. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bertram and Nicolas before him at the time the invention was made to modify system of removing tabular formatting of Bertram and Nicolas to eliminate the tabular formatting of single row or single column tables. One would be motivated to do so because, as stated in Bertram, in column 3, lines 50-58, unnecessary tabular formatting in small screen devices is wasteful.

12. With regard to claim 10, which teaches determining if the tabular data contains nested tables, and removing tabular formatting for the at least one outer table, Bertram further teaches, nested tables (see column 1, lines 65-67), and the removal of tabular formatting for outer tables, and it is implied that that formatting could be removed from the outer table based on the teaching of Bertram.

13. With regard to claim 13, Bertram teaches, in column 3, lines 50-54, the displaying of web page data in a small screen display, in column 3, lines 34-36, determining if the display contains a table, and in column 3, line 65 through column 4, line 2, breaking apart the tabular portions and reorganizing them to allow for vertical scrolling. Bertram, teaches a system of establishing a small screen sensitive display, however, he doesn't go into the details, as did Nicolas. Nicolas teaches, in column 1, line 41 through column 2, line 15 and column 2, lines 35-37, receiving the display data in a format suitable for display in a standard screen size device and modifying it to be displayed in a device with a small display. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bertram and Nicolas before him at the time the invention was made to modify the system of generating small screen displays of Bertram to further point out the receiving the display in a first format. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because it is likely that Bertram's system would receive its display from a system with a large screen format because of most all web pages being formatted so.

14. With regard to claim 14, which teaches removing the tabular formatting including removing one or more HTML table tags from the display data, Nicolas further teaches, in column 10, lines 40-54 the use of HTML tags for marking elements.

15. With regard to claim 15, which teaches display data being a web page, Nicolas teaches, in column 2, lines 34-36, the display data being a web page for a small electronic device.

16. With regard to claim 16, which teaches display data being HTML data, Nicolas teaches, in column 1, lines 49-64, display data being HTML data.

17. With regard to claim 17, Bertram teaches, in column 3, lines 50-54, the displaying of web page data in a small screen display, in column 3, lines 34-36, determining if the display contains a table, and in column 3, line 65 through column 4, line 2, breaking apart the tabular portions and reorganizing them to allow for vertical scrolling. Bertram, teaches a system of establishing a small screen sensitive display, however, he doesn't go into the details, as did Nicolas or teach the formatting before sending. Nicolas teaches, in column 1, line 41 through column 2, line 15 and column 2, lines 35-37, receiving the display data in a format suitable for display in a standard screen size device and modifying it to be displayed in a device with a small display. Nicolas further teaches, in column 3, lines 8-14 the information being processed before sending it to the small screen device. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bertram and Nicolas before him at the time the invention was made to modify the system of generating small screen displays of Bertram to further point out the receiving the display in a first format from the first system. One would



have been motivated to make such a combination because it is likely that Bertram's system would receive its display from a system with a large screen format.

18. With regard to claim 18, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removal of the current document formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell elements as interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width. Bertram further teaches, in column 3, lines 51-58 and column 3, line 65 through column 4, line 2, the breaking apart of tabular portions and reorganization to facilitate the display in a smaller document, he doesn't specifically mention removing formatting if the tabular data contains less than two columns or less than two rows, but it would have been obvious over Bertram and Nicolas to modify system of removing tabular formatting of Bertram and Nicolas to eliminate the tabular formatting of tabular data containing less than two columns or less than two rows. One would be motivated to do so because as stated in Bertram, in column 3, lines 50-58, unnecessary tabular formatting in small screen devices is wasteful. With further regard to claim 18, Bertram discusses the adaptation of a display for a small screen (see column 3, lines 51-55), but doesn't teach tabular data in nested tables, or the removal of tabular data from outer tables if they exist. Nicolas teaches an electronic system for viewing web page data on a small-sized electronic device (see column 2, lines 34-37), similar to that of Bertram, but further teaches, nested tables (see column 1, lines 65-67), and it is implied that that formatting could be removed from the outer table based on the teaching of Bertram. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bertram and Nicolas before him at the time the invention was made to modify the system

reformatting a table for a small display of Bertram to include the ability to have a web page formatted into several frames by a parent web page, whereas each frame is a separate web page from the rest of the parent web page. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because this is how a typical web page is displayed.

20. With regard to claim 19, Which teaches column indicators configured to indicate that a column in the tabular data exceeds the predetermined maximum column width if: the column contains image data exceeding a maximum pixel width allowance, the column contains a form input field, and the column contains text data exceeding a maximum text length allowance. Bertram further teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, indication being given when there is an inability to display the entire width of a table, and in column 9, lines 42-54, and in figure 8, columns containing form input fields. Nicolas further teaches, in column 1, lines 58-62, data including image data and text data.

21. With regard to claim 23, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removal of the current document formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell elements as interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width. Bertram further teaches in column 3, line 60 through column 4, line 2, a processor for generating a new display format. Bertram further teaches in column 9, lines 8-42 the communication between the processor and the memories of the systems in the exchange of data. Bertram discusses the adaptation of a display for a small screen (see column 3, lines 51-55), but doesn't specifically point out that the display was originally formatted for a large screen.

Nicolas teaches an electronic system for viewing web page data on a small-sized electronic device (see column 2, lines 34-37 and column 1, lines 41-67), similar to that of Bertram, but further teaches, that the display was generated from a standard-sized electronic display. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bertram and Nicolas before him at the time the invention was made to modify the system reformatting a table for a small display of Bertram to specify that the display was originally formatted for a standard sized display. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because this is how a typical web page is displayed.

22. With regard to claim 24, which teaches removing formatting if the tabular data contains less than two columns or less than two rows, Bertram further teaches, in column 3, lines 51-58 and column 3, line 65 through column 4, line 2, the breaking apart of tabular portions and reorganization to facilitate the display in a smaller document, he doesn't specifically mention removing formatting if the tabular data contains less than two columns or less than two rows, he does however state in the referenced section, that the user can't afford unnecessary tabular formatting, it therefor would have been obvious over Bertram and Nicolas to modify system of removing tabular formatting of Bertram and Nicolas to eliminate the tabular formatting of tabular data containing less than two columns or less than two rows.

23. With regard to claim 25, which teaches removing tabular formatting if the tabular data indicates a horizontal display length exceeding and absolute maximum width, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removal of the current document

formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell elements as interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width.

24. With regard to claim 26, which teaches removing tabular formatting if the tabular data contains more than one column exceeding a predetermined maximum column width, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removal of the current document formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell elements as interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width.

25. With regard to claim 27, which teaches determining if the tabular data includes nested tables, wherein the nested tables include an inner table and outer tables, Nicolas teaches, a web page formatted into several frames by a parent web page, whereas each frame is a separate web page from the rest of the parent web pages, i.e.: nested tables (see column 1, lines 65-67). Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removing of formatting from these tables.

26. With regard to claim 28, which teaches determining if the tabular data includes nested tables, wherein the nested tables include an inner table and outer tables, Nicolas teaches, a web page formatted into several frames by a parent web page, whereas each frame is a separate web page from the rest of the parent web pages, i.e.: nested tables (see column 1, lines 65-67). Bertram further teaches, in column 3, lines 51-58 and column 3, line 65 through column 4, line 2, the case of a table with less than one column or less than one row (and empty table).

27. With regard to claim 29, which teaches determining if the tabular data includes nested tables, wherein the nested tables include an inner table and outer tables, Nicolas

teaches, a web page formatted into several frames by a parent web page, whereas each frame is a separate web page from the rest of the parent web pages, i.e.: nested tables (see column 1, lines 65-67). Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removal of the current document formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell elements as interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width.

28. With regard to claim 31, which teaches determining if the tabular data includes nested tables, wherein the nested tables include an inner table and outer tables, Nicolas teaches, a web page formatted into several frames by a parent web page, whereas each frame is a separate web page from the rest of the parent web pages, i.e.: nested tables (see column 1, lines 65-67). Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removal of the current document formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell elements as interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width.

29. With regard to claim 32, which teaches determining if the tabular data includes nested tables, wherein the nested tables include an inner table and outer tables, Nicolas teaches, a web page formatted into several frames by a parent web page, whereas each frame is a separate web page from the rest of the parent web pages, i.e.: nested tables (see column 1, lines 65-67). Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removing of formatting from these tables.

30. With regard to claim 33, which teaches determining if the tabular data includes nested tables, wherein the nested tables include an inner table and outer tables, Nicolas teaches, a web page formatted into several frames by a parent web page, whereas each frame is a separate web page from the rest of the parent web pages, i.e.: nested

tables (see column 1, lines 65-67). Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removing of formatting from tables based on the width exceeding some maximum value.

31. With regard to claim 34, which teaches removing tabular formatting if column in the tabular data contain at least one form input field, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removing of formatting from tables based on the width exceeding some maximum value and in column 9, lines 42-54, and in figure 8, columns containing form input fields.

32. With regard to claim 35, which teaches removing tabular formatting if column in the tabular data contain text data exceeding a maximum length, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removing of formatting from tables based on the width exceeding some maximum value, and further teaches, in figure 10, fields containing text.

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. The arguments filed on 07-24-04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Reasons set forth below.

2. The applicants' argue that Bertram does not discuss what happens if an individual cell element is too wide horizontally, or if more than one cell element is too wide.

3. In response, the examiner respectfully submits that Bertram teaches, in column 3, lines 30-42, not only narrowing table columns but also, reflowing text within the columns (cells).

4. The applicants' argue that Nicolas fails to mention or discuss tables of any kind.

5. In response, the examiner respectfully submits that Nicolas teaches, in column 1, lines 65-67 and in column 10, line 54 through column 11, line 21, a system of breaking a page up into frames/columns (elements of a table), and further the ability for a frame to comprise more frames.

6. In response to applicant's argument that the reason for combining had nothing to do with the applicants claimed invention, the fact that applicant has recognized another advantage which would flow naturally from following the suggestion of the prior art cannot be the basis for patentability when the differences would otherwise be obvious. See *Ex parte Obiaya*, 227 USPQ 58, 60 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1985).

### ***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis G. Bonshock whose telephone number is (571)

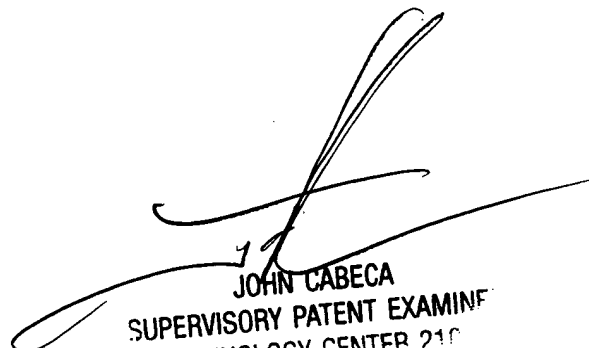
Art Unit: 2173

272-4047. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

09-04-04  
dgb



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